THE THOREAU SOCIETY BULLETIN

Number 3 April, 1942

THE BOOKLET. Bids have been received and arrangements are completed for printing the first annual BOOKLET of the Society by the end of April, so that it can be issued on May 6, the eightieth anniversary of Thoreau's death. It is not a funereal book but contains the hopeful material presented at Concord on the twelfth of last July. Members of the Society (Those who have paid the dollar dues) will receive a special copy of the BOOKLET printed on heavy paper and covered with heavy blue board. Other copies on lighter paper will be available at 25¢ each. Only enough copies of the special edition will be printed to send one to each member of record on April 30. If you mean to join the Society and want one of these better BOOKLETS, send a dollar.

NEWS NOTES ABOUT MEMBERS. The Secretary-on-leave of the Society, Walter Harding, has been doing a little pinch-hitting from a distance. The war took him out of graduate school but did not put him into the army. He is awaiting assignment to American Friends Service Committee work. . . . Ira Hoover, 1495 North 53rd Street, Philadelphia, wonders about starting a local Thoreau group in that city. If you live near, let him know whether you'd be interested in joining. . . . Likewise, Alexander Lincoln, Jr., Meredith, N.H., wonders about a group getting together somewhere along the New Hampshire-Massachusetts border. He didn't say so, but I think he'd give all comers a glass of milk. He says he's "slave to a herd of cattle." . . . The Society is nation-wide now. The other day William T. Webber, of Long Beach, California, sent in a membership dollar for William junior. Hitherto, members in Texas, Oklahoma, and Colorado had marked the western boundary of the Society. . . . There are Thoreaus in California. Hadn't we better make all Henry D. Thoreaus honorary members? There are two of them. . . . Adin Ballou continues to read Thoreau and then write sonnets under the inspiration. The sonnets get published too. But he doesn't send the Society president copies or bibliographical data.

NEW YORK GROUP MEETINGS. The New York Thoreau discussion group had its first meeting in January. After a general discussion, Harry Lee read some of his favorite parts of MORE DAY TO DAWN; Max Cosman read a chapter from his projected biography of Thoreau; and Adin Ballou recited a few of his "After Reading Thoreau" sonnets. Then there was more talk and a few Thoreau treasures were exhibited. Early in April the group held a second meeting and gained a few members. Perhaps we shall have more news of this second meeting or others for the next BULLETIN. Meanwhile, anyone living near New York and wanting to join the group might well get in touch with Daniel Bernstein, 730 Park Avenue.

THE JULY MEETING. It is not too soon to think about plans for July, provided any plans can be made in these times. Some members have wondered whether any meeting should be attempted this year. The president (the lone officer, nearly a thousand miles away from Concord) thinks a meeting should be held. Fully two-thirds of the members live within thirty miles of Concord and could get there by means of a short bus or railway journey. Perhaps a single session the afternoon of Saturday, July 11 or Sunday, July 12, should be all we plan. But a permanent organization needs to be set up; and in some ways the war makes the need greater. Members might come for the entire day, prowl around the countryside alone or in groups, eat together if they liked, but relieve the Concord committee of arrangements of all responsibility except for one session devoted to program and business. One member says he will walk over from Worcester if need be. What's your idea about the July meeting?

BULLETINS. All copies of the first BULLETIN have been sent out. The second one, issued in January had a wide circulation. 236 copies of this one are being mailed out. Less than one-third go to paid-up membership.

ADDRESS MAIL FOR THE SOCIETY TO RAYMOND ADAMS, BOX 762, CHAPEL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA

Thoreau Bibliography, January through March, 1942

(Anonymous), "Thoreau Society Bulletin", NEW ENGLAND QUARTERLY, Vol.XIV (December, 1941) p. 582. (Full-page notice of the Thoreau Society and its bulletin)

Audubon Society, AMERICA MY COUNTRY. (A pamphlet soliciting gifts, quotes from one of Thoreau's poems on page 11 and from WALDEN on page 14.)

Ballou, Adin, "Make Whistles of Your Life" New York HERALD TRIBUNE, March 29 (Poem in the "After Reading Thoreau" group reprinted from CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR.

Ballou, Adin. "Unoccupied Winter" New York HERALD TRIBUNE, February 3 (Another of his "After Reading Thoreau" sonnets.)

Bernstein, Daniel. "To the Editor" FREE AMERICA, March, page 14. (A letter proposing Thoreau as the philosopher of decentralization, self-sufficiency, and individual independence -- the principles of the magazine.)

Bernstein, Daniel. "Seeks Clippings on Thoreau," Concord (Mass.) JOURNAL, January 29, page 10. (A letter to the editor.)

Conant, W. B. "Would Thoreau Have Rejoiced?" THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY, Vol. LIX (March 25) p.388. (A letter to the editor concerning India, saying that Thoreau "held the spirit of revolt in check through Gandhi.")

Edman, Irwin. FOUNTAIN-HEADS OF FREEDOM. N.Y.: Reynal and Hitchcock. (Pages 149-153 devoted to Thoreau's exaltation of individuality).

Gray, Leonard B. "Henry Thoreau - Great Individualist", THE CHRISTIAN LEADER, Vol. CXXIV (January 17) pp.40-41. (An appraisal of Thoreau's message by a Congregational minister in Lynn, Mass.)

"J. D. A.", "Speaking of Books", NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW, January 4, page 2. (Quotes the last two paragraphs of WALDEN "as a kindling expression of the hope and expectancy in which life must be lived by those who would keep their faith in the forging of a better world.")

Mulder, Arnold. "Benjamin Franklin: Teacher of Composition," COLLEGE ENGLISH, Vol. III (February, 1942), pp.485-6. (On the pages mentioned is a paragraph devoted to Thoreau's composition in relation to his experience.)

Robinson, James R. "Civil Disobedience" CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR. Vol. IV (February) p. 5 (Applies Thoreau's essay "On the Duty of Civil Disobedience" to contemporary pacifism.)

Thomas, William S. "Thoreau as His Own Editor", NEW ENGLAND QUARTERLY, Vol. XV (March, 1942) pp. 101-103. (A 16 stanza poem owned in ms. by the late Doctor Thomas compared with the 10 stanza version of "To My Brother")

Thoreau, H. D. "Reading", ENCORE, Vol. I (February, 1942) pp.102-110. (A reprint of the third chapter of WALDEN.)

Thoreau, H. D. "Immortal American Words" P.M., January 13, page 22. The newspaper quotes Thoreau's December 4, 1860, journal entry on slavery.)

Tinker, Edward Larocque. "New Editions, Fine & Otherwise", NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW March 29, p.21. (Traces Thoreau's "The Duty of Civil Disobedience" and his non-cooperation to Etienne La Boetie's DISCOURSE SUR LA SERVITUDE VOLUNTAIRE, translated by Harry Kurz under the title ANTI-DICTATOR (Columbia University Press, 1942).

Updegraff, Robert R. "Time for Everything," THE ROTARIAN, LX (February, 1942) pp.29-30, 55. (On page 28 is a portrait of Thoreau as one who was self-appointed "inspector of snowstorms and rainstorms. Thoreau mentioned on page 55)

MIMEOGRAPHED MATERIAL. The Society in January issued a two page BULLETIN NO. 2. Raymond Adams has issued two THOREAU NEWSLETTERS for distribution to his friends. Each of these (one in January and one in March) consisted of two long pages. The January NEWSLETTER resulted in printed comment and quotation in the Concord HERALD of February 5, and THE SATURDAY REVIEW OF LITERATURE of February 14. The March letter started a broccoli war on the editorial page of the N.Y. SUN. But that's April news for the next BULLETIN.and Bibliography.

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